

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 HA-05 L-03 SS-15 NSC-05 PRS-01  
SP-02 SY-05 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 CA-01 H-01  
( ISO ) W  
-----001343 291850Z /47

R 281706Z NOV 77  
FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5003  
INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE  
AMCONSUL LENINGRAD

C O N F I D E N T I A L MOSCOW 17229

BELGRADE FOR USDEL CSCE

E.O.11652: GDS  
TAGS: PINT SHUM CSCE PINS UR  
SUBJECT: EMBASSY PROTESTS ACCESS INCIDENT

REF: A)MOSCOW 17140, B) MOSCOW 14215

1. POLCOUNSELOR DELIVERED FOLLOWING NOTE NOVEMBER  
28 TO FEDOSEYEV, DEPUTY CHIEF, USA DIVISION, MFA:

"THE EMBASSY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA WISHES TO  
CALL THE ATTENTION OF THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF  
THE UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS TO A SERIOUS  
INCIDENT INVOLVING REFUSAL BY THE SOVIET MILITIA TO PERMIT  
SOVIET CITIZENS TO VISIT THE EMBASSY.

"AT ABOUT THREE P.M. ON NOVEMBER 25, 1977 A GROUP OF  
APPROXIMATELY SIX SOVIET ADULTS AND TWO CHILDREN  
WAS INTERCEPTED BY THE MILITIA AS THEY ATTEMPTED TO APPROACH  
THE EMBASSY. THE GROUP WAS PUSHED BY FORCE ALONG THE  
SIDEWALK IN THE DIRECTION OF THE EMBASSY'S COMMERCIAL  
OFFICE. SEVERAL MEMBERS OF THE GROUP WERE BEATEN,  
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PUNCHED AND PUSHED INTO CARS, THEN DRIVEN AWAY BY  
THE MILITIA.

"AN EMBASSY CONSULAR OFFICER ARRIVED AS THIS  
INCIDENT WAS IN PROGRESS AND DETERMINED THAT THE  
SOVIET CITIZENS WISHED TO COME TO THE EMBASSY TO  
DISCUSS MATTERS RELATING TO THEIR DESIRE TO EMIGRATE

TO THE UNITED STATES. THE CONSULAR OFFICER REPEATEDLY REQUESTED THE MILITIA TO ALLOW THE SOVIET CITIZENS TO ENTER THE EMBASSY'S CONSULAR SECTION. THE MILITIA ON THE SCENE, WHO WERE BEHAVING IN A BELLIGERENT FASION TOWARD THE CONSULAR OFFICER AND OTHER EMBASSY OFFICERS, REFUSED TOPERMIT ANY OF THE SOVIET CITIZENS TO ENTER THE EMBASSY.

"THE EMBASSY WISHES TO POINT OUT THAT THE MINISTRY HAS REPEATEDLY ASSERTED THAT THE SOLE FUNCTION OF THE SOVIET MILITIA STATIONED OUTSIDE THE EMBASSY IS TO PROVIDE PROTECTION TO THE EMBASSY AND THAT IT IS NOT THEIR FUNCTION TO BAR ENTRANCE TO PERSONS WHO HAVE CONSULAR MATTERS TO DISCUSS WITH THE EMBASSY. IN THIS CASE, THERE IS NO DOUBT THAT THE MILITIA WERE NOT ACTING TO PROTECT THE EMBASSY. A CONSULAR OFFICER AND SEVERAL OTHER EMBASSY OFFICERS WERE PRESENT DURING THE INCIDENT. THE CONSULAR OFFICER DETERMINED THAT THE SOVIET CITIZENS HAD LEGITIMATE CONSULAR BUSINESS TO DISCUSS AND MADE AN EXPLICIT REQUEST TO THE MILITIA TO PERMIT THEM TO ENTER.

"THE BRUTAL BEHAVIOUR OF THE MILITIA AND THEIR REFUSAL TO ACCEDE TO THE CONSULAR OFFICER'S REQUEST TO PERMIT THESE SOVIET CITIZENS TO ENTER THE EMBASSY CANNOT BE CONFIDENTIAL

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RECONCILED WITH THE OBLIGATION OF THE SOVIET GOVERNMENT NOT TO HINDER THE CARRYING OUT OF THE LEGITIMATE CONSULAR FUNCTIONS OF THE EMBASSY. THE EMBASSY STRONGLY PROTESTS THIS REFUSAL TO PERMIT ACCESS TO THE EMBASSY AND CALLS UPON THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS TO TAKE AFFIRMATIVE AND EFFECTIVE STEPS TO ENSURE THAT THIS KIND OF BEHAVIOR BY THE MILITIA DOES NOT RECUR. SUCH INCIDENTS CANNOT CONTRIBUTE TO THE CONSTRUCTIVE WORKING RELATIONSHIPS THAT ARE IN BOTH SIDES' INTEREST."

2. FEDOSEYV SAID HE WOULD LOOK INTO THE MATTER, THEN SAID "YOU REMEMBER THE GEORGIANS, PERHAPS ITS THE SAME CASE."

3. COMMENT. THIS IS NOT SAME CASE AS THAT OF SIX GEORGIANS WHO ENTERED EMBASSY IN SEPTEMBER AND REMAINED TWO NIGHTS (REFB). RATHER, WE BELIEVE THIS MAY BE SAME GROUP WHICH APPROACHED AN EMBOFF AFTER BUSINESS HOURS ON NOVEMBER3. THEY WERE TOLD TO RETURN TO EMBASSY FOLLOWING DAY, BUT TO BEST OF OUR KNOWLEDGE DID NOT ATTEMPT TO RETURN THAT DAY. THERE WAS NO ATTEMPT TO ENTER EMBASSY AT THAT TIME AND NO

UNTOWARD BEHAVIOR BY SOVIET MILITIA TOWARD THE  
GROUP. TOON

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PUBLIC DEMONSTRATIONS, ARRESTS, DIPLOMATIC PROTESTS, VISITS, EMBASSIES, DIPLOMATIC MISSIONS  
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**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
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**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
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